

the United Methodist Church in Harrisonville, MO, and served as a board member for the Cassco Area Workshop. She also served as a member of the Bayard Chapter No. 179 Order of the Eastern Star. In addition, Dottie was a member of the Cass County Central Democratic Committee, the Cass County Women's Democrat Club, and was a Shrine Circus Mom. In 1993, Dottie was honored as the Cass County Democrat Woman of the Year.

Mrs. Vansandt is survived by a son, a daughter, a stepdaughter, eight grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker. Dottie Vansandt's public services makes her a role model for young civil leaders. I am certain that the Members of the House will join me in honoring this Missourian who will be missed by all who knew her.

A TRIBUTE TO MINDY ELVEY

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring our colleagues' attention to a Pennsylvanian who has refused to let a formidable obstacle stand in her way of making people's lives a little better. This outstanding citizen, Mr. Speaker, is Mindy Elvey of Altoona, Pennsylvania.

Mindy is a teenager growing up in a typical American city, but it is her outstanding actions, Mr. Speaker, which are nothing short of extraordinary. She is a 15-year-old who has battled leukemia and still receives monthly chemotherapy to fight this terrible and life threatening disease. However, Mindy has not allowed her illness to stop her from caring about those around her.

As a patient in a Pittsburgh Ronald McDonald House, Mindy was not permitted to visit the common television viewing room during a critical stage in her fight against leukemia because she couldn't risk infection while being exposed to others. While recuperating at her home in Altoona, Mindy made crafts and sold them to family and friends in order to purchase a new television set for the facility. Her concern for others who were sick and staying at the facility didn't stop there, and Mindy began a campaign to persuade local groups and businesses to donate more television sets to the Pittsburgh Ronald McDonald House. Her efforts have allowed 10 of the 15 bedrooms at the facility to have brand new television sets in them. Mindy Elvey had stated, "I just wanted to do something nice."

For her selfless determination Mindy Elvey is being honored tomorrow, along with other outstanding citizens from around the country, at the Seventh Annual "Make A Difference Day," hosted by USA Weekend Magazine and the Points of Light Foundation.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues in the House of Representatives to join with me in congratulating Ms. Elvey for being chosen as a national honoree and for a job well done. Mindy has shown that no matter what difficult odds we may face, we can still make our world a better place.

NAFTA BELIEVERS CAN CHANGE THEIR MINDS

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that I have been an opponent of NAFTA since its inception. I have voted against the free trade pact, and I have opposed efforts to expand it.

Many have accused me of being out of touch with modern economics and the "global economy." Nonetheless, I believe the facts have supported my position. NAFTA has been a disaster. Americans jobs have been lost and our trade deficit has exploded with Mexico. I am further heartened in my opposition to NAFTA by the recent conversion of one of America's leading journalists to my point of view: Hedrick Smith of the Public Broadcasting System.

Smith, who produces or hosts many important news programs and documentaries on PBS, recently showed NAFTA's ill effects on his excellent series, "Surviving the Bottom Line." In addition, Smith wrote an analysis of NAFTA in Washington Monthly magazine based on his research for the documentary. Both show a damning picture painted a self-described "long time free trader."

Smith mentions the familiar problems with NAFTA: The U.S. has lost several hundred thousand jobs and our balance of trade has gone from a \$5.4 billion surplus to a \$18 billion deficit with Mexico in four years.

However, Smith has also uncovered some interesting reasons as to why this happened. His reporting showed that some of the blame goes all the way across the Pacific Ocean to Japan and South Korea, where Pacific Rim industrial giants like Sony, Samsung and Panasonic have discovered a backdoor to the U.S. market. By setting up plants south of the border and exporting products made there to us they are able to avoid paying import duties because NAFTA eliminated those tariffs between Mexico and the United States.

Just when many foreign-based firms, such as Honda, Toyota and BMW, have discovered the prudence in investing in plants in the United States to avoid import tariffs, while also paying good wages to American workers who in turn can afford to purchase the products they make, NAFTA has given these companies a huge pool of one-dollar-an-hour workers who can also help them avoid the same tariffs.

Smith's reporting also confirms that rather than bringing the average Mexican worker up, NAFTA has had the reverse effect of depressing the living standard of American workers. The major culprit here is the notoriously weak Mexican labor unions, which are usually controlled by the government, and the power of the maquiladora trade associations in collusion with that government, which conspire to keep wages down lest the Mexican workers actually try to share in the wealth they help create. These low wages have a chilling effect that reaches far north of the border.

Smith's conclusion is not hopeful: "As long as Mexican wages are kept low as a matter of government policy, inadequate labor rights or collusion among employers, the living standard of the American middle class will continue to erode."

For the sake of our nation and for the sake of American working families, we must take a long, hard look at our nation's trade policies and the currently fashionable mentality that all free trade must be good trade. If we don't, I strongly suspect that Hendrick Smith's prophecy will come true.

TRIBUTE TO LUPITA AND TONY RAMIREZ

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and pay tribute to Lupita and Tony Ramirez, for being awarded the Governor's Volunteer Award for outstanding service. Mr. and Mrs. Ramirez were presented with this award on April 20, 1998, by Governor George W. Bush. For over 29 years, Mr. and Mrs. Ramirez have been helping others, contributing to a better way of living for the citizens of Harlingen, TX. They utilize their talents in the volunteer spirit for humanity.

As true pioneer volunteers, Antonio and Lupita Ramirez began their volunteer activities in 1969. They realized that many poor citizens had no transportation to get to their doctor's appointments. In the same spirit, they rounded up twenty friends and turned their home, telephone, and cars into an information, referral and transportation center. They did not have money, but they had heart and determination.

The group organized and became the Harlingen Community Committee. Under the direction of Mr. Ramirez as President, they progressed from the Ramirez' home into a building to one of Harlingen's parks. The Ramirez became a tireless advocate for the poor people. They aided in starting "Su Clinica Familiar" where medical services are available to our low-income people. Mr. Ramirez also helped found Amigos del Valle, which provides housing, transportation, and a hot meal for the elderly in the community.

In 1971, because of high unemployment, they started employment training for the community. Another vital service to the people in need, the Ramirez added Adult Basic Education, teaching English, typing, bookkeeping, Spanish, citizenship, drivers ed, sewing, and upholstery.

In 1974, the Ramirez incorporated the organization and persuaded the city of Harlingen to approve their information and referral and social service agency. All the while volunteers were running the office and providing transportation for those in need. By now, the Harlingen Community Committee had grown and changed their name to "Harlingen Information and Social Service Organization," a multi-purpose center.

In 1983, after a severe freeze, and while the State and Federal officials debated responsibility for bureaucratic bottlenecks, the Ramirez provided emergency help for many farm workers unemployed by the freeze. The Ramirez' quick response to this emergency made it easier for the families to receive the much needed help.

For these efforts, Cameron County Officials and I recognized Antonio and Lupita Ramirez. On March 1, 1984, it was declared the "Tony and Lupita Ramirez Day," in Cameron County,

Texas. The Ramirez have received many awards and certificates of merit for their volunteer work from many civic groups and State and Federal officials.

The Ramirez have continued to work as volunteers for over 29 years. Their efforts were made possible through the love and support of their five daughters and their families. Mr. and Mrs. Ramirez are very grateful to the foundations, church groups, and people who have made generous grants and donations to the organization. The grants and donations have made it possible for the Ramirez to continue serving the community. For the last 3 years they have provided nutritional and educational programs for the elderly, information and referral services, counseling, clothing distributions, and a food bank to the many people in need. All this could not have been done by the Ramirez had others not contributed to helping the needy. All this has been done without State or Federal funding, but through the assistance of those people who have believed in their work and exemplified the spirit of volunteerism.

I ask my colleagues to join me in extending congratulations to Lupita and Antonio Ramirez for being honored with this special recognition.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NATIONAL MARROW DONOR PROGRAM

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to the National Marrow Donor Program and a campaign called "Because I Care." The National Marrow Donor Program was created in 1986 to provide marrow transplants from volunteer, unrelated donors to patients with leukemia, aplastic anemia, lymphomas and other life-threatening illnesses.

The National Marrow Donor Program maintains a Registry of more than three million potential marrow donors and is facilitating more than one-hundred transplants per month. Currently, the organization's operating funds come from the Health Resources and Services Administration, which is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The coordinating center is located in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

In 1990, a walkathon entitled "Because I Care" was held in Longview, Texas, in my Congressional district, to help two leukemia patients, Bryan Quinn and Al Edwards. Stemming from that initial event has risen the "Because I Care Campaign," a volunteer grassroots effort in support of the National Marrow Donor Program. It has since become an international campaign supporting the national program's global outreach.

Thousands of people have been tissue typed, and millions more have become aware of the National Marrow Donor Program as a result of the "Because I Care Campaign." The campaign is coordinated by a volunteer, Amy Hill, of Longview, Texas. Carter BloodCare in Dallas, Texas, a member donor center of the National Marrow Donor Program, serves as the "Because I Care" coordinating center and is under the supervision of Jill Skupin, the National Marrow Donor Program Director at Carter BloodCare.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to all the volunteers and donors throughout our nation who have contributed to the success of the "Because I Care Campaign" and whose efforts are so important to those suffering from life-threatening illnesses. I want to especially commend Amy Hill, whose vision and compassion and selfless dedication helped spark a grassroots effort that grew from Longview, Texas, to become a national and international campaign in support of the National Marrow Donor Program.

TUFTONIA'S WEEK

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts, and to honor the more than 78,000 alumni of this great university as they gather to participate in the 14th annual celebration of Tuftonia's Week.

During Tuftonia's Week, students, alumni, professors, administrators, and parents will gather to celebrate the achievements of the Tufts community. This community encompasses students and graduates that live in more than 100 countries around the world. From the undergraduate through the professional degree level, Tufts University instills in its students the importance of volunteerism and the need to give back to one's community.

Once again, the theme of this year's Tuftonia's Week celebration is TuftServe and focuses on volunteer involvement and community service. Since its inception in 1995, Tufts alumni have recorded over 300,000 hours of volunteer service. Their contributions to the community—locally, nationally, and globally—should serve as an inspiration to us all.

I congratulate the students, alumni, and faculty of Tufts University for their hard work and commitment to the community.

MIKE BORDALLO'S APPOINTMENT TO THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 19, another native son of Guam will advance the course of Guam's judicial history when he is installed as a judge of the Superior Court of Guam. Although this history is relatively brief, the judicial branch of the Government of Guam coming into existence in 1950, the name of Michael J. Bordallo will join a distinguished list of Chamorro men and women who have sworn to interpret the law for the people of Guam from the bench of the Superior Court. Like his peers, Mike brings with him an inherent love and understanding of his native language and culture, as well as practical experience defending Chamorro rights, both as a practicing attorney and as a private citizen. Whether it is enjoining the

desecration of ancient burial sites or encouraging the talents of local artists and musicians, Michael Bordallo is an active proponent of Guam's cultural identity and heritage.

Michael was born on July 14, 1961 to Attorney Fred E. Bordallo and my sister, Annie Underwood Bordallo, who instilled in him a love of justice and the law and a strong sense of identity. Mike graduated from Saint Anthony School in Tamuning in 1975 and from Father Duenas Memorial High School in 1979. He then went on to the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana, and earned a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration in 1983. After returning to Guam, Mike went to work in his father's law office. He also served as a legislative consultant to the Guam Legislature's Committee on Education. He later returned to Notre Dame University, attended law school, and received his juris Doctor degree in 1987. After passing the California Bar Exam, Mike returned to Guam and went to work as an Assistant Attorney General representing Child Protective Services in the Family Court. He was sworn in as a member of the Guam Bar Association in 1988, then went into private practice with his father.

For the last six years, Mike practiced law alongside his first cousin, Michael F. Phillips, in the firm of Phillips & Bordallo, P.C. With much affection and admiration, many of the friends and family of the two attorneys often refer to them simply as "Mike and Mike." During his career, Mike Bordallo has represented and participated in numerous actions involving issues such as desecration of ancient Chamorro burial grounds, the military land takings following World War II, the implementation of the Chamorro Land Trust Act, and a Cost of Living Allowance for Government of Guam retirees. He also has represented several legislative committees since 1992, and has represented the Territorial Board of Education and the Guam Department of Education.

In 1989, when the House Interior and Insular Affairs Subcommittee Chairman Ron DeLugo conducted the first-ever hearing on the Guam Commonwealth Act in Honolulu, Hawaii, Mike Bordallo helped found the Guam Commonwealth Hearings Association, which raised funds to subsidize the travel costs of Guam residents who otherwise would not have been able to attend and submit testimonies at the hearing.

In view of his activities in a wide range of island issues, Michael J. Bordallo was appointed to the bench by the Government of Guam and unanimously confirmed by the 24th Guam Legislature earlier this year. I join his parents, Fred and Annie, his brothers and sisters, his wife Carla and their children, Joshua and Stephanie, in congratulating him and placing trust in his sense of justice to guide him on the bench.

HEALTH ADVOCATES HONORED

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a wonderful organization devoted to improving the quality of life in Michigan and throughout the country, the American Lung